



**CAREER LUNCH AND LEARN** — Eighth grade students at Laurens Middle had the opportunity to learn about working in the medical field during a recent Career Lunch and Learn event. Chris Martin who is a Physician's Assistant was the guest speaker. Mr. Martin shared with students about his career path. He graduated from Clemson and then worked 11 years as a chemical engineer. However, having a strong interest in working in health care, Martin attended MUSC and now enjoys an entirely different career as a Physician's Assistant. Pictured are, from left, Andy Robertson, Jaedon Goodwin, Chris Martin, Hadden Martin, Stella Jenkins, Emily Whiteford, and Anna Nance Reynolds.

## PC freshman enrollment continues to rise

Presbyterian College freshman enrollment for the upcoming academic year is up from last year, with three months still remaining before the fall semester begins.

At last count, 316 students had joined the Class of 2023. This current total is 44 more than the 272 students at this time last year and exceeds the number of freshmen at the beginning of the Fall 2018 semester.

"We're very excited about the incoming class," said Mark Fox '08, PC's director of admission. "The freshman class is a bright and talented group of students, and we can't wait to see all they'll accomplish when they arrive this fall."

The Class of 2023 has performed slightly better in the classroom than the Class of 2022 too. The GPA for the incoming freshmen is 4.17, compared to 4.09 for last year's freshmen. Further, the average SAT score for the Class of 2023 is 1158, compared to 1149 for the Class of 2022.

Not only is the number of fresh-

men already up from last year, but the number of out-of-state students has increased too. Seventy-three of the 316 freshmen are from out-of-state. Last year's freshman class included 54 out-of-state students in all.

Fox credits the increase in out-of-state students to additional staff, who traveled more than in previous years. Fox also acknowledges the important role played by the coaches recruiting athletes who can excel in the classroom. Many factors contributed to the overall increase in freshmen, Fox said, most notably sharing the PC story more strategically.

"One of the pillars of the strategic plan, the Promise of PC, is sharing our story," Fox said. "We've developed key partnerships in the digital realm that have helped us present messaging and imagery that resonates with students trying to decide which is the right college for them."

PC partners with Technolutions, an organization which provides admission technology for nearly a

thousand colleges and universities across the country. The Technolutions software platform, Slate, helps the College deliver targeted messaging to students searching for colleges.

Slate also helps streamline the admissions process for students by allowing them to register for events like Accepted Students Day. Three out of four students who attended Accepted Students Day in March are among the incoming class of freshmen.

Also in the digital realm, PC's partnership with ZeeMee provided a platform for prospective students to hear from current PC students and engage with one another.

The campus has already begun preparing for growth. A new residence hall is currently being built to house 144 upperclassmen. The new residence hall includes three separate buildings. Two of the buildings are expected to be complete before the fall semester begins. The third is expected to be complete by early September.

## Tractor Supply provides students with hands-on learning experience

The Laurens Tractor Supply Company store is supporting Tender Loving Care in developing a school garden that will provide students with an enriched, hands-on learning experience.

"The School Garden Program provides kids with an opportunity to use their hands and minds in a way that's not typically available in a traditional classroom setting," said

Christina Eubanks, manager of the Laurens Tractor Supply store. "We are excited to educate students about the origin of their food while encouraging them to continue exploring how the world around them works."

Tractor Supply carries all the supplies necessary to start or sustain a garden, including mulch, soil, fertilizers, live plants, traditional and

organic seeds, and gardening tools. Tractor Supply will provide Tender Loving Care with a starter kit that will assist in the establishment of the garden.

Interested schools can contact or visit the Laurens Tractor Supply store at 864-683-1571 for more information. Laurens Tractor Supply is located at 917 East Main Street, Suite H.

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